

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KIGALI 00554 121604Z

63

ACTION AF-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PC-15 SS-02 DRC-01 RSC-01 /025 W

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R 121405Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2633

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJ: PEACE CORPS

REF: STATE 173822

1. EMBASSY HAS HAD EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH APPROPRIATE GOR OFFICIALS AND REPS OF INTERESTED BILATERAL DONORS RE VSUGGESTIONS REFTEL. RESULTS OF THESE CONTACTS AS FOLLOWS:

A. DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL TOURISM OFFICE RENZAHO SAYS HE INTERESTED IN TWO VOLUNTEERS FOR CONSERVATION AT PARC DES VOLCANS. HE INDICATED BELGIUM WILL HANDLE CONSERVATION IN KAGERA PARK. VISIT TO PARC DES VOLCANS BY EMBOFF, WHICH INCLUDED MEETING WITH DIAN FOSSEY, EMPHASIZED URGENT NEED FOR CONSERVATION EFFORTS IN PARC TO STAVE OFF ENCROACHMENT BY FARMERS AND CATTLE. MISS FOSSEY SAID MINIMUM OF TWO AND MAXIMUM OF 8 WELL QUALIFIED AND MATURE VOLUNTEERS WOULD BE NEEDED TO DO EFFECTIVE JOB. EMBASSY EXPLORING WITH GOR POSSIBILITY OF USING EXISTING BUT RUN-DOWN HOUSING IN PARC DES VOLCANS FOR VOLUNTEERS. RENZAHO UNABLE TO GIVE ASSURANCES AVAILABILITY OF HOUSING, BUT PROMISED TO EXPLORE. HE INDICATED WRITTEN REQUEST TO EMBASSY FOR PCV'S WOULD BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY AND SAID IT WOULD INCLUDE REQUEST FOR MODEST FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR LOGISTIC SUPPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN PARC DES VOLCANS. (COMMENT: PERHAPS AID/W CAN EXAMINE EXPECTED REQUEST

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PAGE 02 KIGALI 00554 121604Z

FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT IN CONTEXT OF

BIGELOW REPORT.)

B. EMBOFFS DISCUSSED FORESTRY WITH VISITING SWISS AID OFFICIAL AND GOR SECGEN FOR PLAN. FORMER INDICATED THERE WAS NEED FOR ADDITIONAL MANPOWER IN FORESTRY AND SWITZERLAND HAD NO REPEAT NO OBJECTIONS TO POSSIBLE PCV ROLE. SWISS CURRENTLY EVALUATING THEIR FORESTRY PROJECT AND PROMISED TO BRIEF EMBASSY ON RESULTS. SECGEN FOR PLAN EXPRESSED INTEREST IN PCVS FOR FORESTRY, AND SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS WITH OTHER MINISTRIES. HE INDICAATED HOUSING "VERY DIFFICULT PROBLEM." HE PROMISED TO INVESTIGATE HOUSING POSSIBILITIES, BUT ASKED WHETHER SOME OTHER CONTRIBUTION BY GOR MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE. SECGEN ALSO ASKED FOR ESTIMATE OF NUMBER OF PCVS THAT MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FOR FORESTRY.

C. SECGEN SAID HE WAS ALSO INTERESTED IN PCVS FOR FISH CULTURE. HE REPEATED OBSERVATION RE SCARCITY OF HOUSING AND ASKED HOW MANY VOLUNTEERS MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FOR FISH CULTURE.

2. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ESTIMATE OF POSSIBLE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS WHO MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FOR FORESTRY AND FISHERIES PROJECTS IN RWANDA.

3. EMBASSY WISHES TO RECALL THAT STATE 85726 STATED "PC/W POSITION IS THAT WE CANNOT COMMENCE NEW PROGRAM IN RWANDA UNLESS GOR MAKES CONCRETE DEMONSTRATION ITS INTEREST IN PEACE CORPS THROUGH PROVISION OF HOUSING OR EQUIVALENT CONTRIBUTION". IN LIGHT OF REMARK BY MINISTRY PUBLIC WORKS ADVISOR RE POSSIBILITY OF VEHICLE IN LIEU OF HOUSING FOR MATERIALS TESTING LABORATORY DIRECTOR (KIGALI 0501) AS WELL AS PLAN SECGEN'S REMARKS REPORTED ABOVE, EMBASSY WISHES TO KNOW WHETHER IN SOME CASES "EQUIVALENT CONTRIBUTION" (VEHICLE OR OTHER) FROM GOR WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. PROMPT CLARIFICATION THIS POINT WOULD BE HELPFUL.
SHOSTAL

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